

VZCZCXYZ0000  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNC #0242 0481448  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 171448Z FEB 06  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5576  
INFO RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE 3498  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE 4541  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 1132  
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0415  
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 0384  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 0425  
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 4107  
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 2037  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 0159

UNCLAS NICOSIA 000242

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

AMMAN FOR RMO  
CAIRO FOR RMO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KFLU](#) [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [CASC](#) [KSAC](#) [TBIO](#) [KSTH](#) [WHO](#)

AMED, PREL, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS AI UPDATE: NO NEW CASES; MOST SPECIAL  
MEASURES TO END FEBRUARY 24

REFS: (A) NICOSIA 195 (B) NICOSIA 150 (C) NICOSIA 125 (D)  
NICOSIA 116 (E) NICOSIA 76 (F) NICOSIA 74 (G) NICOSIA 50  
(H) NICOSIA 34 (I) 05 NICOSIA 1914 (J) 05 NICOSIA 1866  
AND PREVIOUS

**¶1.** (SBU) There have been no new reports of suspected cases of avian influenza (AI) in either poultry or humans since two chickens tested positive for H5N1 in January (refs b-d). Three more EU veterinary experts and a health expert visited the island February 13-16. They reconfirmed the previous delegation's conclusion (refs. a and b) that the suspected outbreak had been contained, that the Turkish Cypriot authorities had taken appropriate actions and there was no indication of further spread of the disease. The GoC has announced plans to end special measures at the crossing points on February 24, which will be 30 days since the Turkish Cypriot veterinary experts reported decontaminating the site where the infected birds were found.

**¶2.** (SBU) On February 16, the U.S.-funded, UNDP administered ACT program hosted another meeting of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot veterinary and health experts together with the EU experts. The Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot experts agreed for the first time to regular (rather than ad hoc) meetings as well as a bicultural training simulation providing the UNDP gets approval from their respective political leaderships. The UNDP will seek that approval next week.

SCHLICHER